

UNKOCH MY CAMPUS

By Charles Koch's own admission, universities are the most important thread in his web of political influence. Charles Koch's university investments reflect his political theory of change, called the "[Structure of Social Change](#)." This plan starts by influencing academic institutions to publish ideas that support Koch's agenda. These ideas are then transformed into policy recommendations at Koch-funded think tanks, which are later championed by Koch's advocacy groups and used to lobby elected officials.

[UnKoch My Campus](#) is a national campaign that works with students, faculty, alumni, and community allies to expose and prevent the ways in which donors like Charles Koch and his donor network are buying academic influence in an attempt to legitimize and bolster their political and corporate agendas. We believe that higher education should be a place of open exploration, critical thinking and learning, not a place where the production of knowledge is controlled by private interests.

This document provides a [bibliography of critical resources](#) for those interested in learning more and becoming active in resisting the corporatization of education on their campus. To view a digital copy of this handout, go to bit.ly/AAUP2017UnKochResources

PRIMARY SOURCES

The Powell Memo, a 1971 memo from corporate attorney Lewis Powell to the U.S. Chamber of Commerce. It is a blueprint for corporate survival in the face off of the civil rights, labor, and environmental gains made in the 1960s. Powell, later a Supreme Court Justice, included clear instructions for the corporate subversion universities and media.

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Anti-Capitalism and Business, a 1974 speech by Charles Koch as chair of Institute for Humane Studies, on how universities "encourage extreme hostility to American business," and rather than "financing our own destruction," businesses must "[support] only those programs, departments or schools that 'contribute in some way to our individual companies or to the general welfare of our free enterprise system.'" Koch advises that "educational programs are superior to political action, and support of talented free-market scholars is preferable to mass advertizing. The development of a well financed cadre of sound proponents of the free enterprise philosophy is the most critical need facing us at the moment." He references the **Powell Memo**.

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The Structure of Social Change (late 1970s), Koch foundation's three-part "integrated strategy" for privately funded policy change, where donors fund universities to produce "intellectual raw materials," think tanks to convert raw to "usable form," and political front groups to provide the appearance of public support, inducing lawmakers in the "implementation of policy change." It is referred to as an "integrated strategy."

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Leveraging Science and Universities, panel discussion at Koch 2014 Donor Summit where Koch officials (Kevin Gentry and Ryan Stowers) confirm the use of the "integrated strategy," and bragged about how their academic programs act as a "talent pipeline" to to "become the major staffing" at Koch network think tanks and "grassroots" front groups, to bolster "state-based capabilities and election capabilities."

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(To get connected, email samantha@unkochmycampus.org and ralph@unkochmycampus.org, and visit www.unkochmycampus.org)

APEE Recordings, from the 2016 conference of the Association of Private Enterprise Education. Koch officials describe contractual control and the political goals of academic programs, while Koch professors describe using large private donations to “take over” departments, using their foundations/principles courses “primarily as a recruiting ground” for Koch’s “liberty movement,” while others “outsource to Students for Liberty.”

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Benson Memo: A 2007 memo sent from Bruce Benson, the chair of Florida State University’s Department of Economics, to the economics faculty, describing very clearly that the Koch foundation and a “a group of Foundations with similar agendas that meet twice a year to discuss funding strategies,” whose “agenda is to expose students to free-market ideas, and to provide opportunities for students who want to study with faculty who share Koch’s appreciation for markets and distrust of government. The proposal is, therefore, not to just give us money to hire anyone we want and fund any graduate student that we choose. There are constraints.”

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Analysis

Academic Freedom Oversteps: A brief survey of Koch foundation contract language across several universities, with examples of Koch’s violation of academic freedom and faculty governance.

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Example of Materials prepared for Campuses: Contract analysis and context prepared for the faculty senates of the University of Kentucky and Syracuse University (resp).

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bit.ly/AAUP2017UnKoch9

FSU Faculty Senate Investigation: The 2011 report of the FSU faculty senate which found repeated and egregious violations of academic freedom and faculty governance. This report was suppressed, and a highly censored version was released in its place.

Uncensored Version

Censored Version

Diagram Showing Extent of Censorship

bit.ly/AAUP2017UnKoch10

bit.ly/AAUP2017UnKoch11

bit.ly/AAUP2017UnKoch12

A Case Study in Academic Crime: UnKoch’s 2017 book length report on the Charles Koch Foundation at Florida State University (and Executive Summary).

bit.ly/AAUP2017UnKoch13

(bit.ly/AAUP2017UnKoch14)

Gift v.s. Grant report, a 2015 report by UnKoch/FSU Progress Coalition on the conflicts between FSU’s Koch contract and FSU’s donor policy (and Executive Summary).

bit.ly/AAUP2017UnKoch15

(bit.ly/AAUP2017UnKoch16)

Wake Forest Faculty Senate Investigations: 2017 Reports of the Ad Hoc Committee, the Committee on Academic Freedom and Responsibility (resp).

bit.ly/AAUP2017UnKoch17

bit.ly/AAUP2017UnKoch18